

Peterson Ridge Biological Evaluation for Categorical Exclusion: Botany

Section I – Screening Tables

Species List Analyzed:

R6 RFSS List Date: ☒ 3/8/2019 (<https://www.fs.fed.us/r6/sfpnw/issssp/agency-policy/>);

☐ - Other Date; Date TEP list acquired from [IPaC](#) Date

Table 1. Species that are not analyzed further

Listed and Proposed Species
The following listed or proposed species or critical habitats are not known or expected to occur in the project area, or are not expected to be affected by the project. As a result, no effect is expected to these listed or proposed species and effects to them are not analyzed further :
All species <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
All species except those listed below and analyzed in Section II <input type="checkbox"/>
The following listed or proposed species or critical habitat is known or expected to occur or may be affected by the project and are analyzed further. Proceed to Section II with these species. <u>List species here</u> : Click here to enter species
Regional Forester's Sensitive Species
The following sensitive species are not known or expected to occur in the project area. As a result, no impact is expected to these sensitive species and impacts to them are not analyzed further :
All species <input type="checkbox"/>
All species except those listed below and analyzed in Section II <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The following sensitive species are known or expected to occur in the project area and are analyzed further. Proceed to Section II with these species. <u>List species here</u> : Penstemon peckii

Section II – Analysis and determination of effect

Table 2. Identification of habitat and analysis of impacts

Listed and Proposed Species carried forward from Section I		
For each species carried forward from Section I, briefly identify and describe all occupied and unoccupied habitat as it relates to recovery and summarize how the proposed action may directly, indirectly, or cumulatively affect the species or their occupied habitat, or unoccupied habitat required for recovery		
Species	Habitat description	Summary of potential effects from proposed action on species or habitat
Regional Forester's Sensitive Species carried forward from Section I		
For each species carried forward from Section, briefly identify and describe all occupied and unoccupied habitat as it relates to maintaining viability at the Forest Plan scale or preventing a trend towards listing and summarize how the proposed action may directly, indirectly, or cumulatively impact the species or their occupied habitat		
Species	Habitat description	Summary of potential impacts from proposed action on species or habitat
<i>Agoseris elata</i> (tall agoseris)	Forest openings and forest edges adjacent to wet/moist meadows, lakes, rivers, streams.	Project has potential to injure or kill individual plants during trail construction.
<i>Castilleja chlorotica</i> (green tinged Indian paintbrush)	PP, LP, and mixed conifer forest openings. PP at lower elevations, LP at middle to Upper elevations, mixed conifer at highest elevations.	Project has potential to injure or kill individual plants during trail construction.
<i>Penstemon peckii</i> (Peck's penstemon)	Ponderosa pine openings, open PP forests; mixed conifer openings; recovering fluvial surfaces, seeps, rills, draws, ditches, moist-wet meadows, dry or intermittent stream channels.	Project has potential to injure or kill individual plants during trail construction.

Table 3. Determination of effect

Listed and Proposed Species and their Critical Habitat carried forward from Section I	
The proposed action:	Species
Will have no effect (qualifies for CE)	
<u>Proposed</u> - Not Likely to Jeopardize the Continued Existence Of The Species Or Result In Destruction Or Adverse Modification Of Proposed Critical Habitat*. <u>Listed</u> - May affect, but not likely to adversely affect* (qualifies for CE)	
<u>Proposed</u> - Likely to Jeopardize the Continued Existence Of The Species Or Result In Destruction Or Adverse Modification Of Proposed Critical Habitat*. <u>Listed</u> - May affect, and is likely to adversely affect* (See Attachment - 1 to the Chief's Letter Dated October 12, 2018, Pertaining to Significance under the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act to determine if your project qualifies for CE)	
Regional Forester's Sensitive Species carried forward from Section I	
The proposed action:	Species
Will have no impact (qualifies for CE)	
Will have a beneficial impact (qualifies for CE)	
May Impact Individuals Or Habitat, But Will Not Likely Contribute To A Trend Towards Federal Listing or Cause A Loss Of Viability To The Population Or Species (qualifies for CE)	Agoseris elata, Castilleja chlorotica, Penstemon peckii
Will Impact Individuals Or Habitat With A Consequence That The Action May Contribute To A Trend Towards Federal Listing Or Cause A Loss Of Viability To The Population or Species (likely does NOT qualify for CE)	

* Biological Assessments will need to be completed and consultation will need to be completed prior to signing the decision for these determinations.

Section III –

Project Design Criteria and Best Management Practices for dealing with adverse effects

Project Design Criteria and Best Management Practices to be used to reduce negative effects/impacts of the project aimed at helping achieve, maintain, or restore project eligibility for CE – These PDCs and BMPs should be collaboratively developed, ideally during the Plan to Project phase, with the responsible official and other specialists. If these are not followed, it may change the determination of effects above.

Table 4. Project Design Criteria and Best Management Practices for removing, avoiding, or compensating for any adverse effects and notes for particular species

Species	PDCs and BMPs
Agoseris elata, Castilleja chlorotica, Penstemon peckii	Work with botanist to route trail so as to avoid TES plants.

Section IV – References

References of informal consultation, contacts, contributors, sources of data, and literature used in developing this BE.

USFS. 2019. Deschutes National Forest Pre-field Review Form 2019.

USFS. 2009. Species Conservation Strategy For Peck's Penstemon. ISSSSP website.
<https://www.fs.fed.us/r6/sfpnw/issssp/species-index/flora-vascular-plants.shtml>